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MEMORIAL SERVICE

—AT—

MT. VERNON ON THE POTOMAC.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

Knights Templar of Illinois.

OCTOBER 9TH, 1889.

A.·. O.·. 771.

H. S. TIFFANY & CO., PRINTERS, 196 TO 202 CLARK ST., CHICAGO.

In accord with Purinton's Templar Tactics and the resolution adopted by the Grand Commandery at its last Annual Conlave, and the voluntary concurrence of Commanderies, as indicated by answers to the Circular Letter of the Right Eminent Grand Commander dated November 13th, 1888, furthering such project, every effort has been made to maintain the Battalion formation for the Knights Templar of Illinois during the continuance of their pilgrimage to attend the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment at Washington, D. C., even in the "make up" of Railroad Trains en route.

The Railroad Lines owned by the Pennsylvania Company, being thoroughly equipped, and the facilities for transportation under its control being unsurpassed, and safety and elegance of accommodations being made pre-requisites by the Sir Knights of Illinois, it was determined to go to Washington and return, over the lines belonging to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

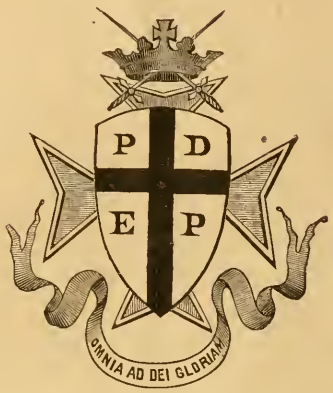
The Memorial Service at the tomb of George Washington was suggested by Eminent Sir De Witt C. Cregier.

This Programme for the Memorial Service was compiled and arranged by Right Eminent Sir Henry C. Ranney, with the purpose of giving in it a succint history of GEORGE WASHINGTON.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

AT

MT. VERNON ON THE POTOMAC.



UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF ILLINOIS.

OCTOBER 9TH, 1889.

A.·. O.·. 771.

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PROGRAMME.

AFTER COMMANDERIES HAVE BEEN FORMED AS PER ORDER.

PRAYER, BY REV. AND EM. SIR JAMES MILLER, GR. PRELATE.

MUSIC, - - - - *"The Sword of Bunker Hill."*

BY THE CONSOLIDATED BANDS.

RESPONSIVE SERVICE.

Grand Commander: One hundred years ago Sir Knights and Brethren, the first President of the United States, the Illustrious and Immortal

GEORGE WASHINGTON,

was inaugurated, and this day we assemble around his tomb, citizens of a great (and then unknown) State, to pay his august name the tribute of our love and honor; a man "the first among his equals;" a "Mason, free by birth, rank and station," but now a captive to the dread messenger at whose call the king and the beggar meet upon the level.

The name of Washington claims a place in Masonry, not so much for services rendered the Institution either as a worker or a writer, as it does on account of his connection with the craft, making it a source of pride to every American Mason who can for this reason at least, claim the Father of his Country as a Brother.

Washington was initiated in the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Va., Nov. 4, 1752; passed March 3, 1753, and the following evening was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

There is evidence that during the revolutionary war, while he was Commander in Chief of the American armies, he was a

frequent attendant upon the meetings of military lodges, that he presided on one or more occasions at the initiation of candidates; and it was at one time seriously proposed to elect him Grand Master of Masons throughout the United States. In May, 1788, his name appears as a charter member of a lodge (Alexandria No. 22), of which he was unanimously chosen first Master. In December of the same year the record reads that "His Excellency, General Washington" was unanimously re-elected. On repeated occasions he announced in his letters and addresses to various Masonic Bodies, his profound esteem for the character, and his just appreciation of the principles of our Institution, into which at so early an age he had been admitted; and during his long and laborious life, no opportunity was presented of which he did not avail himself to evince his esteem for it. Thus in 1792, in a letter to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, he expressed his opinion of the Order, declaring it to be "One whose liberal principles were founded on the immutable laws of 'truth and justice,' and whose grand object is to promote the happiness of the human race." And at other times to divers Grand Lodges he made the most explicit declarations to the same effect.

Brethren, we as American Masons love to dwell on the fact that this distinguished patriot (whose memory is so revered, that his unostentatious grave, which we now surround, has become the Mecca of America), was not only our Brother, but was ever ready to express his good opinion of the Craft. Says one of his distinguished confreres: "Washington would not have encouraged an Institution hostile to morality, religion, good order and the public welfare."

Response: Apollo No. 1, K. T., of Chicago. — Washington possessed in a pre-eminent degree the four cardinal virtues of our Order: Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. History gives numerous instances of this. Temperate in his habits and general speech, his fortitude was displayed under many trying circumstances, and his prudence under defeat and want of support enabled him to act with justice in all his dealings with mankind.

Remarks: By Em. Sir Dewitt C. Cregier, E. C. of Apollo No. 1.

Response: Peoria No. 3, K. T., Peoria. — Our Brother possessed another great Masonic virtue — fervency—whatever he did, he did with all his might.

Response: Joliet No. 4, K. T., Joliet. — He showed his zeal, for the welfare of his soldiers; and after the declaration of peace for promotion of law and order.

Response: Blaney No. 5, K. T., Morris. — He had faith in the justice of his cause, and encouraged by hope, drew his sword in defense of the liberties of his country, never forgetting to extend the point of charity to a fallen foe.

Response: Beaumanoir No. 9, K. T., Decatur. — Washington had the fierce fighting temper of the Northmen. He loved battle and danger, and never ceased to love them and to give way to their excitement; and his utter indifference to danger was the key stone of his success.

Music: - - - - - "*Weber Quartette.*"

Grand Commander: It is said that we know but little of the life of this great man, that his history has never yet been written; but this we do know: that he was a loving and obedient son, an affectionate brother, a good husband, and above all, "the noblest work of God," an honest man.

Response: Cairo No. 13, K. T., Cairo. — At the age of sixteen he was actively engaged in surveying the great Fairfax estate, and the first period of his career was passed on the frontier fighting Nature, the Indians and the French. Tall and muscular, with a well-shaped, active figure, and a face open and manly, possessing a square massive jaw, and a genial expression of calmness and strength: fair and florid, big and strong, he was, take him all in all, as fine a specimen of his race, as could be found in the Colonies.

Response: Gorin No. 14, K. T., Olney. — At the age of nineteen he was appointed an Adjutant General of Virginia, with the rank of Major; and at twenty-two entered on his first campaign, and although it was neither a brilliant or successful one, his services were so highly appreciated, that the House of Burgesses passed a vote of thanks to him and his men.

Response: Urbana No. 16, K. T., Urbana. — At twenty-five we hear of him as a general without an army. He wrote, "I have been posted here for more than twenty months past, upon our cold and barren frontiers, to perform, I think I may say, impossibilities: that is, to protect from the cruel incursions of a crafty, savage enemy, a line of inhabitants of more than three hundred and fifty miles in extent, with a force inadequate to the task.

Response: Everts No. 18, K. T., Rock Island. — At the age of twenty-seven, Washington was married to Martha Dandrige; three months later took his seat as a member of the House of Burgesses, and received the thanks of the House for his services to his country. With a largely increased estate, he devoted his time to farming, of which he understood every branch. He kept his own accounts with wonderful exactness; his credit was high, and he made money. He had no senseless disregard for it or the good things of this world, but estimated them at their true worth.

Response: Chicago No. 19, K. T., Chicago. — Washington's active life at this time was largely out of doors, so too were his pleasures. He loved the fresh open air existence in the woods and fields, and there he found his greatest amusement. He fished and hunted, and at the age of forty, we learn that the life of a country gentleman did not dull or stupify him, or lead him to gross indulgence.

Response: Temple No. 20, K. T., Princeton.—Washington watched the course of events very closely; for in 1769 he wrote "Something should be done to avert the stroke and maintain the liberty which we have derived from our Ancestors. That man should not scruple or hesitate a moment to use arms in defense of so valuable a blessing is clearly my opinion."

Response: Aurora No. 22, K. T., Aurora. — In August, Washington represented his country in the meeting of representatives from all Virginia. The silent man was now warming into action.

Response: De Molay No. 24, K. T., Bloomington. — In a most eloquent speech he said: "I will raise a thousand men, subsist them at my own expense, and march them to the relief of Boston."

Response: Calvary No. 25, K. T., Woodstock. — He took but little part in the debates of Congress at Philadelphia, but notwithstanding this, he impressed himself deeply on all the delegates. Says Patrick Henry: "If you speak of solid information and sound judgment, Col. Washington is unquestionably the greatest man on the floor."

Grand Commander: June 15th, 1775, George Washington was unanimously elected Commander-in-Chief of the American Armies; and his words accepting the trust were few and simple. He expressed his sense of his own insufficiency for the task before him, and said that as no pecuniary consideration could have induced him to undertake the work, he must consequently decline all pay or emoluments, and look to Congress to pay his expenses only.

Mankind is impressed by externals, and those who gazed upon Washington in the streets of Philadelphia felt their courage rise and their hearts grow strong at sight of his muscular figure as he passed before them on horseback with a mien which was stately, dignified and well contained; and were confident he was a man worthy and able to equal the emergency he was chosen to meet.

MUSIC: - - - *"Star Spangled Banner."*

CONSOLIDATED BANDS.

Response: Hugh De Payens No. 29, K. T., Carrollton.— He arrived at Cambridge early in July, and all speak alike of him; lady, lawyer and surgeon, patriot and tory, and as they wrote, so New England felt; one said: "Dignity, ease and complacency, the gentleman and the soldier, look equally blended in him, and modesty marks every line and feature of his face." These lines of Dryden instantly occurred to me.—

> "Mark his majestic fabric! He's a temple,
> Sacred by birth, and built by hands divine:
> His soul's the deity that lodges there;
> Nor is the pile unworthy of the God."

MUSIC: - - - - *"Weber Quartette."*

Response: St. Omer, No. 30, K. T., Litchfield. — His letters to the Commander of the British Army in Boston taught the British general that Washington was not a man to be trifled with, and that in him was a pride and dignity over topping theirs and far stronger, because it was grounded on responsibility borne, and work done, and on the deep sense of a great and righteous cause.

Response: St. Bernard No. 35, K. T., Chicago. — He had to contend with local and personal jealousies on account of the greed and selfishness of the money-making, stock-jobbing spirit, which springs up rankly under the influence of army contracts and large expenditures among a people accustomed to trade and unused to war, but despite all hindrances and annoyances, he moved straight on to the accomplishment of his object. After the capture of Boston, Washington wrote as follows: "To maintain a post within musket shot of the enemy for six months together, without powder: and at the same time to disband one army and recruit another within that distance of twenty odd British regiments, is more probably, than ever was before attempted." It was a gallant feat of arms, carried through by the strong brain and resolute will of one man.

Response: Godfrey De Bouillion No. 44, K. T., Mattoon.—We pass to his last victory at Yorktown, where Lord Cornwallis surrendered his army to the allied American and French forces, as it was practically the end of the war. Washington's management of this campaign was masterly. The great factor of success lay in his profound personal influence on all men with whom he came in contact. He found difficulty in managing allied troops and an allied fleet, but he did both with infinite address and won. His courtesy and tact were perfect, but he made no concessions and never stooped. The proudest French noble who came here, shrank from disagreement with Washington, and yet none of them had anything but admiration and respect to express when they wrote of him in their memoirs, diaries and letters. He impressed them one and all with a sense of power and greatness, which could not be disregarded.

Response: Athelstan No 45, K. T., Danville. — To those who have suspected that Washington was cold blooded and unmindful of others, the letters he wrote in regard to his soldiers may be commended. The man whose heart was wrung by the sufferings of the poor people on the Virginia frontier, in the days of the old French war, never in fact changed his nature. Fierce in fight, passionate and hot when his anger was stirred, his love and sympathy were keen and strong towards his army. His heart went out to the brave men who had followed him, loved him, and never swerved in their loyalty to him and to their country. Washington's affection for his men, and their devotion to him, had saved the cause of American independence oftener than strategy or daring.

MUSIC: - - - - - - *"Columbia."*

CONSOLIDATED BANDS.

Response: Chevalier Bayard No. 52, K. T., Chicago. — Washington's patriotism and nobility of character was fully shown by his course after the "Newburgh Addresses" had been published. The excitement was at fever heat. The feeling of hostility to the existing system of government, and of confidence in Washington increased steadily. It was as easy for Washington to have grasped supreme power then, as it would have been for Cæsar to have taken the crown from Antony upon the Lupercal. To put aside a crown for love of country is noble, but to look down upon an opportunity to take one, indicates a much greater loftiness and strength of mind.

Response: Siloam No. 54, K. T., Oak Park. — Washington was wholly free from the vulgar ambition of the usurper, and a desire for worldly aggrandizement found no place in his nature. He fought to free the colonies from England and make them independent, and not to play the part of a Cæsar or Cromwell in the wreck and confusions of a civil war. He flung aside the suggestion of supreme power, not only as dishonorable and unpatriotic, but because its assumption by

him would have defeated the one great and noble object at which he had aimed : the establishing of a strong government for the country he had made independent.

Response : Sterling Commandery No. 57, K. T., Sterling. — Washington was unanimously elected the first President of the United States, and on the 30th of April, 1789, he was inaugurated in the city of New York. History tells us that after the administration of the oath, he laid his hand upon the Holy Bible — that great light in Free Masonry — bowed, and said solemnly, when the oath was concluded, "I swear, so help me God," and bowing meekly, kissed the book.

MUSIC: - - - - "*Weber Quartette.*"

Response : Englewood Commandery No. 59, K. T., Englewood. — God in his wisdom denied Washington children, that he might live forever under the ever enduring title of " the Father of his Country."

His farewell address was instinct with the purest and wisest patriotism. "Be united," he said, "be Americans. The name which belongs to you in your national capacity, must exalt the just pride of patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. Let there be no sectionalism; no North, South, East or West; you are all dependent one on another, and should be one in union. Beware of attacks, open or covert, upon the Constitution. In one word, be a Nation, be Americans, and be true to yourselves."

Grand Commander : After a short illness Washington departed this life December 14th, 1799, and was buried on the 18th ; the Free Masons of Alexandria bearing the body in procession and performing their ceremonies at the vault. The obsequies were modest and simple according to his own wishes, and the grounds of Mount Vernon which had formed the poetical dream of his life, now became his final resting place. Public testimonials of grief and reverence were displayed in every part of the Union ; and such sentiments were not confined to the United

States. When the news of his death reached England, Lord Bradport in command of an English fleet of sixty sail of the line, lowered his flag half mast, and the commander of every ship followed his example, and Bonaparte, First Consul, when he announced the death of Washington to the army of France, ordered that black crape should be suspended from all the standards and flags in the public service for ten days.

MUSIC: - - - *"My Country 'Tis of Thee."*
CONSOLIDATED BANDS.

ADDRESS: By REV. SIR KNIGHT GEO. C. LORIMER, D.D.

MUSIC: - - - - - - - *"Weber Quartette."*

PRAYER AND BENEDICTION: - By GRAND PRELATE.

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